## Turner County Public Schools

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FD2000 Project Coordinator Food Distribution Division – FNS 3101 Park Center Drive Ford Avenue Bldg. – Room 601 Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Project Coordinator:

The Turner County School System, School Food Service Program, is in favor of most of the proposed changes introduced in the information on Food Distribution 2000, USDA Proposal For Change. However, we are opposed to the following changes:

Change number 4. Allow vendors to use commercial labels.

We would have problems in keeping correct calculations of purchased and USDA foods if both had commercial labels. This would cause inventory confusion as well as possible audit problems.

Change number 6. Expand full substitutability of commodity product.

We strongly oppose any substitutions of products, especially if they are not domestic.

Change number 12. Provide computer connectivity to the school district level.

To have to purchase hardware and software for this project would add more financial strain to systems that are already burdened with tight financial constraints. Also, we have no problem in communication of recalls or food safety problems.

We would like to stress the importance of USDA commodities to our School Food Programs. We depend on these food items to help us maintain an operational budget. With the high cost of purchased foods, it is essential to us to receive as much help as possible from USDA.

Sincerely,

John NeSmith SFS Director Turner County